

# The Brooklyn Paper

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**BROOKLYN HEIGHTS-DOWNTOWN EDITION**  
INCLUDING DUMBO

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Tamer Hamawi and Emelie Kihlstrom are co-owners of Colonie, a restaurant on Atlantic Avenue that donors helped build.

## Kickstarting your dinner

Fancy eatery opens — with your help — in Bklyn Heights

By Linnea Covington  
The Brooklyn Paper

Maybe Al Gore should take credit for this restaurant. Colonie, the body-namic, artisanal eatery that just opened last week on Atlantic Avenue in Brooklyn Heights has more than just a great chef and three committed owners: it also has the power of the social network behind it.

Eight months ago, owners Elise Rosenberg, Emelie Kihlstrom, and Tamer Hamawi set up an account on the then-obscure fundraising website Kickstarter, announcing their eatery and seeking donations so that said restaurant could someday actually exist.

In exchange for cash, the trio offered incentives: pledging \$50 to the effort got you a round of drinks for four people. A grant of

\$1,000 bought an eight-person, family style dinner. The goal was to raise \$10,000 by Nov. 1 — but by year's end, the trio had raised \$15,371 from 91 backers.

"Social networking is the great-est tool," said Rosenberg. "We did it to raise money and to get the word out. And it worked."

Like a charm, in fact: long before Colonie opened on Feb. 17, people were talking about the restaurant, the blogs had picked up the thread, and the foodie community in Brooklyn and beyond was watching.

It helps, too, that Colonie's seasonal American menu goes hand in hand with Brooklyn's latest trend: body-namic eats.

"This is a trend, but we strongly see COLONIE on page 11

## NEW PARK TAX?

Critics say idea is dead as other housing alternatives emerge

By Laura Gottesdiener  
The Brooklyn Paper

Brooklyn Bridge Park could raise one-quarter of its massive maintenance budget through a new tax on local businesses and residents — but that idea is dead in the water, say critics, who think there are better ways to raise the money.

A consultant hired last year to search for revenue to maintain the park without building residences within its waterfront footprint released a draft report on Tuesday that predicted that \$1 million to \$4 million towards the park's \$16-million maintenance budget could come from a new tax on residents and business owners within a quarter-mile of the park.

But the scheme — called a "Park Improvement District" — is so unpopular that before the ink dried on the study, the proposal was already being blasted as "insulting" and "a scare tactic."



A consultant hired to seek alternatives to housing inside Brooklyn Bridge Park thinks \$4 million could be raised by taxing residents and businesses in a quarter-mile zone near the park.

"The Park Improvement District they proposed is not going to happen," said state Sen. Daniel Squadron (D-Brooklyn Heights). "There are viable alternatives to the current plan" to include housing in the park.

The construction of housing and other revenue-generating uses stems from a 2002 agreement between the city and state that the \$350-million park raise its own maintenance budget so it would not be a drain on city coffers.

But the proposed 20- to 30-floor luxury high-rises have long been the 1.3-mile waterfront development's most controversial feature, so last year, park planners created a Committee on Alternatives to Housing.

On Tuesday, the committee's consultant issued a draft report that found \$2.5 million to \$7 million in new revenues, including the controversial new park improvement district.

See PARK on page 11



A judge has dismissed all charges against sidewalk-riding unicyclist Kyle Petersen.

## On the roll again

### Unicyclist beats rap in sidewalk-riding caper

By Laura Gottesdiener  
The Brooklyn Paper

He's "Free Wheel-y!"

Unicyclist Kyle Petersen was back in his slightly unbalanced saddle again on Tuesday after a judge dismissed a disorderly conduct charge against the one-wheeled wonder for riding on the sidewalk two months ago.

"I'm quite relieved," said Petersen. "I was just happy that common sense won the day."

Petersen is best known for entertaining the multitudes at MCU Park as the unicycle-riding vendor for the Brooklyn Cyclones — but off the field, he's less entertaining to cops.

Petersen's legal troubles date back to 2007, when he was ticketed for riding on the sidewalk of Madison Street near his Bedford-Stuyvesant apartment.

Then, on Nov. 2, 2010, cops again hit Petersen with a summons for the same alleged violation. This time, the high roller tried diplomacy.

"I told the cops that I'd been through this before and that unicycling on the sidewalk is completely legal," Petersen said.

So cops summonsed him for something else: disorderly conduct, court papers show.

For the record, riding a unicycle on the sidewalk is actually legal because

state law defines a bicycle as having at least two wheels, and the judge dismissed the case this week.

Dismissal or not, Petersen's legal cycle continues.

Last year, he filed a \$3-million suit against the city for the wrongful arrest.

"The police had no business detaining me and stopping me, and it shows a pattern of behavior against the NYPD," said Petersen.

Petersen says his civil suit is not about his personal agony, but about winning protection for everyone, whether they use wheels or not.

See ROLL on page 11

## Sunnier sequel for Pavilion

By Laura Gottesdiener  
The Brooklyn Paper

Coming soon to Park Slope's Pavilion Cinema: "Renovation II — The Sequel."

The rundown multiplex on Prospect Park West — which hasn't been refurbished since its original grand reopening in 1996 — is finally getting a makeover, and theatergoers are relieved that the rumored bedbug haven will soon have functional seats.

"We used to come here a lot," said



The seats in the Pavilion movie theater feature rips, tears and even some missing seatbacks.

Dan Kluger of South Slope. "But I've found the place has gotten really run-down."

This winter hasn't been easy for the old theater, which opened as the Sanders in 1928, closed in 1978, and was reborn as the Pavilion 14 years ago. Inconsistent heating, broken seats and unsubstantiated bedbug rumors have increasingly plagued the film house.

This year, the despair became so serious that General Manager Ross Brunetti issued an apology to the neighborhood in February, writing, "It pains

us every day to see how much it [the theater] has deteriorated."

In the same letter, Brunetti dispelled the bedbug rumor, writing that "there is no evidence that we have bedbugs," but quickly adding, "If bedbugs were ever to be discovered in the theater, we would not sit idly by."

Sure enough, two weeks ago, the Pavilion's corporate owner, Cinecitté, approved a renovation, and "things are underway," said Brunetti. "I'm really excited."

See PAVILION on page 11



Ross Brunetti, the general manager of Park Slope's Pavilion movie theater, looks ahead to the upcoming renovations.



Michael and Alice Halkias, owners of the super-posh Grand Prospect Hall on Prospect Avenue are pushing ahead with their 11-story hotel plan.

## Hall under fire

But Grand Prospect refuses to budge on 11-story hotel

By Gary Bulso  
The Brooklyn Paper

The developer of a controversial 11-story hotel on Prospect Avenue has a plan, and he's sticking to it — in spite of a growing chorus of naysayers blasting his scheme as inappropriate for the neighborhood.

More than 200 residents have signed an online petition urging Grand Prospect Hall owner Michael Halkias to shave at more than half the height from his

110-foot building proposal so that it complies with the 50-foot limit imposed in 2005.

But Halkias is having none of it.

"I don't need anybody to tell me what to do," he said this week. "It's unrealistic to ask me to do that."

The hotel would rise next to the venerable catering hall, located on Grand Prospect Avenue between 15th and 16th streets, and

See HALL on page 5

## Comptroller wants you!

Tell John Liu who to audit

By Alex Rush  
The Brooklyn Paper

Here's your chance to bust a shady city agency! Comptroller John Liu is asking Brooklynites to suggest agencies that should be audited for financial mismanagement — and he's promised to pursue at least one resident's allegation of waste within a few weeks.

"Nobody in city government at any level knows exactly everything that's going on the ground, in the grassroots, in the communities," Liu said at the ask-for-an-audit town hall meeting last Thursday at the Brooklyn Public Library's Central Branch.

The comptroller heard almost 20 audit recommendations at the public meeting, but people can still submit their suspicions of monetary waste and fraud online at [www.comptroller.nyc.gov](http://www.comptroller.nyc.gov). City agencies are audited most often at least once every four years — but private businesses that operate

on city-owned property are also fair game to be inspected.

The comptroller's office usually audits about 60 organizations each year.



Comptroller John Liu came to Brooklyn last week to let people request audits.

See LIU on page 11

## Sex fiend: She OK'd it

By Aaron Short  
The Brooklyn Paper

A Williamsburg man whoops say held a 27-year-old woman captive in his apartment as his "sex slave" for nine days while watching on 16 rape counts on Friday — but his lawyer is claiming that the victim was a willing participant in the "mutually fulfilling relationship."

On Friday, John Hopkins, 45, was formally arraigned on first-degree rape, aggravated sexual abuse, assault, and unlawful imprisonment for forcing his vic-

tim to have sex with him in his Humboldt Street apartment after she answered his Craigslist ad for a rental space.

But later in the day, his lawyer, Andrew Stoll, distributed sexually explicit e-mails that

See FIEND on page 11

## DATA SMOG

Bike lane foes and supporters hopeful about new crash data



The battle for Brooklyn's bike lanes

By Natalie O'Neill  
The Brooklyn Paper

Friends and foes of bike lanes can't wait for a new city bike-crash data law to take effect — because both sides think it will show they're right.

Just about everyone in this cycling-obsessed borough is happy that the City Council passed a trio of bills last week that will require officials to gather collision statistics — and release data about two wheel-related fatalities, injuries and infractions.

Neighbors for Better Bike Lanes, a group of Park Slopeers that is opposed to the controversial Prospect Park West bike lane, thinks that the numbers will vindicate them by proving that the new lane has made the street more dangerous.

"Bikers are now a hazard in their own right," said Louise Hainline, president of the group.



Is that an ambulance in the bike lane?!

SEE PAGE 5

"People don't feel safe." But Noah Budnick, a spokesman for the cycling advocacy group Transportation Alternatives, said his organization is just as jazzed about the legislation, which, he claimed, was inspired by a 2009 report by his group that shows that dangerous drivers are the real problem.

Other Brooklynites battling for street turf may have missed the new legislation, which the City Council quietly passed on Feb. 16.

The three bills would: See DATA on page 5

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# BLOOMBERG'S LIES



## THE LIES: THE TRUTH:

Police officers and firefighters receive a "Christmas bonus."

It's not a bonus. The fund was started in 1968 with contributions from police officers and firefighters. Since 1996, the city has contributed ZERO dollars to pay for this benefit.

Mike Bloomberg cares about police officers and firefighters.

Mike Bloomberg is stealing hard-earned money out of the pockets of police officers and firefighters, which they use to support their families.

The VSF is a burden to the city.

Police officers and firefighters bought and paid for this supplemental retirement benefit in contract negotiations by providing concessions and benefits to the city worth far more than \$4 billion.

The variable supplement fund benefit was an unfunded mandate forced on the city by state legislation.

It is not an unfunded mandate. It was the product of legislation jointly requested by the city and the police and fire unions, and an agreement that has benefited the city to the tune of billions of dollars. Furthermore, it has been fully funded by the police officers' and firefighters' own money for almost two decades.

Other city services will need to be cut unless the city eliminates the variable supplement fund benefit.

Since the benefit has been self-funded for almost two decades, no city services need be sacrificed for the city to honor its agreement. If the city is looking for savings, it need only consider the billions of dollars it has wasted on projects like "CityTime" and its Public Safety Access Center (PSAC) 911 call-taker system.



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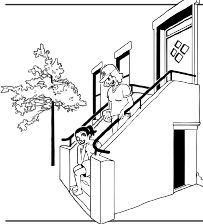
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# THE S

## NEIGHBORHOOD REPORT

### GOWANUS



A threatened suit by the environmental group Riverkeeper led to massive fines against a canal-side bus depot owner this week.

## Groan depot

By Gary Buiso

The Brooklyn Paper

The owner of a commercial bus depot along the Gowanus Canal dumped trash and motor oil into the already toxic waterway — and now he's going to pay for the damage, state officials said this week.

The Department of Environmental Conservation slapped Jacob Marmurstein with a \$482,750 fine, claiming that his MCIZ Corporation repeatedly contributed to the befouled canal's general nastiness, and ordered Marmurstein to plug his leaky oil tanks and clean up the mess at his bus yard and garage near Sixth Street.

The yard has been the site of several petroleum spills, and repeated violations of New York State law governing petroleum bulk storage, tidal wetlands, water quality and solid waste, said agency spokesman Thomas Panzone.

And there's incentive to do the job right. If it cleans up its act, the company will get \$125,000 shaved off his bill, Panzone noted.

State officials said photographic evidence provided by Riverkeeper, an environmental watchdog group, documented some of the violations.

Josh Verleue, the group's chief investigator and staff attorney, said the bezaun dumping amounted to a "willful disregard of the law."

Marmurstein did not return a call for comment. The bus yard is home to tour buses and airport shuttles, which oversee a canal so wretched the Environmental Protection Agency recently branded it one of the most polluted waterways in the country when it declared the sluice a toxic Superfund site last year.

In 2009, Riverkeeper threatened a civil suit against Marmurstein and two other polluters. The two companies made changes, but MCIZ did not, Verleue said. "This was very egregious," he added.

Federal officials, who are embarking on their own 11-year, \$500-million clean-up of the waterway, said they expect their Albany counterparts to handle this mess, which is a violation of state law, and not related to the fed's bigger headache: chasing down polluters responsible for over a century's worth of toxins that have seeped deep into the sediment — and then cleaning it up.

"The Environmental Protection Agency anticipates that the actions laid out in the order will lead to the stoppage of pollution," spokesman John Scem said.

### BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

## Picture perfect

### SJP films on Garden Pl

By Natalie O'Neill

The Brooklyn Paper

Sex and the City's Sarah Jessica Parker put Brooklyn Heights behind a Manhattan-style velvet rope last Wednesday, sending star-struck neighbors into a tizzy.

The warlike actress shot a scene from her new work-in-progress romantic comedy, "I Don't Know How She Does It," on Garden Place with quirky-cute Greg Kinnear, who plays her assistant.

Filmmakers lensed the scene on the prototypical Brooklyn stoop belonging to Andrew Zimmer, who let the crew set up camp for the day. He even had a brief brush with Carrie Bradshaw — er — SJP herself, who did a little lingering in his front hallway.

"She's very sweet, but she was working and I didn't want to bother her," he said. "It's an exciting thing for the neighborhood."

The scene involved Parker's character schlepping a bunch of toys from the apartment to a car — but the film is set in the fall, so film crew members spent much of the morning clearing the lingering snow mounds from the block.

The crew, which also filmed this week, also changed street signs to read "William Place" and "Lenox Road" instead of Garden Place and State Street.

Manhattanite Sarah Jessica Parker lensed a scene from "I Don't Know How She Does It" on Lenox Road — er, State Street in Brooklyn Heights last week.

The scene involved Parker's character schlepping a bunch of toys from the apartment to a car — but the film is set in the fall, so film crew members spent much of the morning clearing the lingering snow mounds from the block.

The crew, which also filmed this week, also changed street signs to read "William Place" and "Lenox Road" instead of Garden Place and State Street.

"I'm not at liberty to discuss it," said

Blaise Yaksick, who co-owns the restaurant with his brother Mateo.

Blaise declined to say if the tax bill had been paid. State authorities also refused to comment, citing the brothers' privacy.

But there was nothing private during the two-day period when the restaurant was closed, when loyal patrons mourned what they hoped was not the permanent loss of a neighborhood staple run by two brothers who are as obsessed with the Pittsburgh Steelers as they are with homey Italian cuisine.

"It's sad, we'll miss this place," said stroller-hauling mom, Heather Millen, who sat on a bench outside the restaurant, channeling the tomato cream pasta. "I love the owners, so I hope

things work out."

Millen said she feels a kinship with the place because she ate dinner there the night she went into labor. Now, it's one of those neighborhood spots she feels comfortable drinking a glass of wine with her baby.

"I hope it opens back up in a day or two," said Martin Einhorn, who owns Uncle Moe's Barrios next door. "I hope it's a mistake."

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### CARROLL GARDENS

## Piazza Mexicano?

### Dream plaza goes south (of the border)

By Gary Buiso

The Brooklyn Paper

Forget gelato and cannoli, visitors to Carroll Park's controversial "piazza" might instead be feasting on a steady diet of tortas and quesadillas.

The city quietly awarded Calexico, the Mexican eatery with a location on Manhattan Avenue in Greenpoint and on Union Street in the Columbia Street Waterfront District, a five-year contract to operate a food cart in the park.

Parks spokeswoman Meghan Lalar said the deal permits the operation of a cart at Smith and Carroll streets.

The city awards permits for the sale of food from mobile carts through a competitive process; Calexico was the lone business to toss its sombrero into the ring, Lalar added.

The cart could add new flavor to the park, which has found itself embroiled in controversy since we first reported that Second Place resident Kurt Andersen, a nationally acclaimed journalist for National Public Radio and author, hoped to play a role in converting

the park into a more Italian-styled "piazza."

Andersen envisions tables and chairs in an "underused" portion of the western side of the park near Court Street.

Longtime residents lashed out with a rarely seen venom, saying that no portion of the beloved park is under-utilized.

Some of the ire was directed at Andersen himself, whose 21-year residency in the neighborhood struck some as too short.

"Someone who has lived in this neighborhood for a matter of weeks in the summer time can tell you all about the virtues of that space in Carroll Park," said Joe Nardello, a neighborhood lifer.

"I'm surprised that someone who has lived here for decades would have an alternate view."

Moreover, critics said, the park is already functions as a neighborhood square.

"It's an urban piazza," said Colla Cauce, a neighborhood resident for 74 years. "We don't need fancy-schmancy chairs or umbrellas."

"This isn't Bryant Park. If you want that type of thing, go into the city," she added.

Novelist Kurt Andersen still hopes to have a piazza-like feel in Carroll Park — but the city is bringing in Calexico.

For now, one of those uses will be the Calexico stand. It's unclear when it will begin opening, but some mouths are already watering for the tacos and burritos, which won a coveted Vandy Award for its cart in SoHo before its owners opened a full restaurant in the Columbia Street area and a cart in Brooklyn Bridge Park last year.

Andersen said he was unsure what the fuss was about.

"There was the tiniest germ of an idea to figure out ways to make the park even more delightful as a community space that can support all kinds of uses," he said.

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# A REAL POTTY CRIME

## 84TH PRECINCT

Brooklyn Heights—DUMBO—Boerum Hill—Downtown

A nutjob stole a lawyer's toilet and threatened to kill him on Valentine's Day.

The victim told cops that a man broke his window at around 5:35 am, then entered his apartment, near Fourth Avenue. Instead of swiping the normal goodies, the quirky crook grabbed a white toilet and headed down the block, schlepping the heavy porcelain god.

To add insult to larceny, he later came back to tell the lawyer, "I'm going to slit your throat."

Cops arrested a 53-year-old man the next day.

**Black bag**  
Two thugs roughed up a Starbucks worker on Joralemon Street on Feb. 2.

The 24-year-old victim told cops that she was walking from a bank near Court Street at 9:20 am when a man grabbed her by the throat from behind.

Another thug sprayed her eyes with Mace, then snatched her laptop and a black bag full of \$6,560.

**Subway snatch**  
A knife-wielding jerk mugged a teenager on Feb. 15 at the Bergen Street train station.

The 13-year-old boy told cops that he got off a bus at around 8:20 am, then noticed a strange man following him to the subway. Once at the station, the man flashed a knife and grabbed it out of his hand. "Give me your cellphone," he said, and ran away.

**No ride**  
A teenage crook robbed a woman in a subway station near Adams Street on Feb. 14.

The 31-year-old lady told cops she was refilling her Metrocard at 8:55 am, when a man pushed her. He grabbed her train pass and lime green Coach wallet before running away.

Cops later arrested a 16-year-old, 5-foot-3 inch, 130-pound man.

**Park pounce**  
A group of thugs beat up a teenager and stole his iPod on Jay Street on Feb. 17.

The 14-year-old boy told cops he set his bag on a bench near Tillary Street at around 2 pm, then noticed a group of men running through his stuff.

## POLICE BLOTTER

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He walked over to claim it, but one of the jerks told him, "Don't move or we'll kill you." One of the thugs then punched the kid in the face, snatched his brown wallet and iPod, then ran away.

— Natalie O'Neill

**Phony cops**  
Three violent thieves in costumes jacked some jewelry from a shop on Fulton Street on Feb. 16.

The victim told cops that three men posing as police officers walked into Kim's Jewelry and Watches near Flatbush Avenue at around 11:30 am. One of the men pulled out a fake silver gun and waved him with it, leaving him with a bloody car.

The thugs then swiped \$1,200 worth of gold bracelets and ran away.

**Audi gone**  
A thief with good taste stole a sweet car on Bergen Street on Feb. 18.

The 26-year-old victim told cops that he parked his gray 2007 Audi near Third Avenue at about 8 pm and returned nine hours later to find his ride gone.

**Film felony**  
A thief stole some fancy camera equipment on Willow Place on Feb. 16.

The 44-year-old victim told cops that he locked video equipment inside his black 2005 Chevy Tahoe near State Street, at 9 pm. He came back at 8 am the next day and found his \$25,000 Sony video camera, \$10,000 Canon lens and \$4,000 microphone gone.

**Bad dinner**  
A thief stole a wallet from a woman on Fulton Street on Feb. 12.

The 29-year-old victim told cops that she was eating at a popular and fast Scottish-American restaurant at Flatbush Avenue Extension at around 7:30 pm, but noticed soon afterwards that her brown leather wallet and several credit cards had been swiped.

**Train crook**  
A jerk snatched a woman's wallet on the subway on Feb. 15.

The 33-year-old victim told cops she boarded the train at

the Jay Street-Metrotech station at about 5:50 pm, then felt a 6-foot man bump into her. He grabbed her wallet before sneaking off of the crowded train and running away.

— Natalie O'Neill

**88TH PRECINCT**  
Fort Greene—Clinton Hill—Red Hook

**Cupid crook**  
A thief ransacked a woman's car parked near the corner of Grand and Lexington avenues this past Valentine's Day — swiping a revealing list of clothes and accessories that included \$600 in lingerie, a pair of pink stilettos and two coats.

Someone forced open the car after it was parked at 10 pm, the victim told police, adding that the thief was quite thorough in his search: He found the lingerie after rifling through a suitcase inside the trunk.

**Playing around**  
Three teens were arrested on Feb. 15 after they tried to hold up an 18-year-old on Fort Greene Place with a toy gun.

The victim was on his way to the DeKalb Avenue station at 2:30 pm when the thieves flashed their realistic looking prop and demanded his phone.

**iPhone bust**  
Two thieves were arrested on Feb. 17 after they grabbed an iPhone from a 32-year-old woman inside the Clinton-Washington train station.

The victim was standing on the Manhattan-bound C train platform, tinkering on her phone when the thieves plucked it out of her hands and ran up to street level only to be apprehended a few blocks away.

**Scared off**  
A hooligan jumped a 25-year-old woman on Cumberland Street on Feb. 18, but ran off with his tail between his legs when his victim began screaming for help.

The victim was walking between Lafayette and Greene avenues at 11:10 pm when the goon grabbed her from behind, but let go when his victim spoke up.

— Laura Gottesdiner

## Chin music

Two thugs brutalized a 23-year-old man on S. Oxford Street on Feb. 19 — leaving their victim with a deep cut to his chin.

The victim told police that he was nearing his home between Lafayette Avenue and Fulton Street at 12:15 am when the suspects attacked him for no apparent reason.

— Thomas Tracy

**76TH PRECINCT**  
Carroll Gardens—Cobble Hill—Red Hook

**Despicable duo**  
Two thugs punched a man in the face and stole his money on Columbia Street on Feb. 15.

The 49-year-old victim said he was near West Ninth Street when two teens began pummeling him, and then rushed removing \$120 from his pockets.

Officer Pedro Jimenez quickly caught up with the pair, arresting the 18- and 16-year-old cohorts.

**Unwelcome**  
Someone burglarized a Tompkins Place home overnight on Feb. 17.

Cops said they were not certain whether the victim was present when the sneaky creep entered the home, located near Kane Street, through a front door that was left open between 11:45 pm on Feb. 17 and 8 am the next day. The cat burglar made off with a wallet containing \$200 and assorted credit cards.

**Apple picker**  
A dope with a taste for high-end electronics burglarized a Fourth Place home on Feb. 18.

The 38-year-old victim said she left her home, located near Clinton Street, at 9:15 am, and when she returned at around 6:45 pm, she discovered a rear window ajar. The creep made off with her Apple laptop valued at \$1,200, along with an Apple iPod worth \$350.

— Gary Buiso

**78TH PRECINCT**  
Park Slope

**Pickpocket**  
A thief swiped an iPhone at Union Hall on Feb. 13. The victim told cops that she was at the club on Union Street near Fifth Avenue at 1 am when a perp bumped into her and lifted the device.

— Laura Gottesdiner

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# City cooking at Moore Street Market

Officials and Marty seek 'incubator' for local foodies

By Aaron Short  
The Brooklyn Paper

Brooklyn's next great food trend could be born at the Williamsburg's Moore Street Market.

The city will spend \$1 million to design a kitchen facility that would help the growing class of foodpreneurs produce their tasty fare for an affordable price—and (finally!) with the blessing of city health inspectors.

Borough President Markowitz, who is funding the food business incubator, believes that the project will create much-needed jobs in one of the borough's fastest-



The city will build a \$2.5-million pedestrian plaza on Humboldt Street in front of the Moore Street Market — and seek a new commercial kitchen for local food producers.

growing industries. "Entrepreneurship doesn't know income levels, and I know that great ideas can come from anywhere," said Markowitz. Markowitz has floated several locations in central Brooklyn, but the Economic Development Corporation is targeting East Williamsburg's Moore Street Market—a beloved 60-year-old indoor market it manages.

The business incubator project would make sense at Moore Street, given that the city is also pouring \$2.5-million into a new public plaza on a stretch of Humboldt Street directly in front of the market. The Department of Transportation has already hired Bushwick artist Austin Thomas

to make the plaza and its tables and chairs "more artful." "The market has a very strong, vibrant community," said Thomas. "There's music always playing there. It's full of life and potential. It's a fiesta all the time."

Food entrepreneur and Greenpoint resident Joann Kim is keeping watch on the market for possible rebirth of her Greenpoint Food Market, which was shuttered by health inspectors last summer because few of its vendors made their food in commercial kitchens.

"It would be an amazing idea," said Kim. "We have a vast inventory of food entrepreneurs who are all based in North Brooklyn. It's definitely on our radar."



Bushwick artist Austin Thomas has been selected by the city to work on the new pedestrian plaza next to the market.

## Movie shoot picked clean

94TH PRECINCT

Greenpoint-Northside

A popstar's \$100,000 wedding

property from a movie shoot on Herbert Street on Feb. 13.

The production com-

pany was using a classroom near Monitor Street at 6 pm when a thief snatched several laptops, iPhones and hard drives.

**Rob report**

There were at least two

break-ins last week:

• A sneaky thief broke into the Salvation Army on Bedford Avenue and stole its safe sometime after the store closed at 6:30 pm on Feb. 14

and when it reopened at 7:30

the next morning, when the manager he found a hole in the ceiling and noticed that the safe was missing.

• A thief stole a laptop and camera from a Humboldt Street apartment sometime

between 9:30 am and 10:30

pm on Feb. 14, when the tenant in the unit near Jackson Street returned to find his rear window open and his stuff missing.

**Wheel bad news**

• A thief swiped a BMW off Woodpoint Road overnight on Feb. 15. The owner told cops that he'd parked near Withers Street at 7 pm, but when he returned at 5:30 the next morning, the car was gone.

• A man parked his Ford Mustang on India Street near Manhattan Avenue on Feb. 17 at 9 pm, but when he returned at 6 am the next day, it was gone.

• A thief stole \$100 from the glove box of a car on Sutton Street overnight on Feb. 14. The owner told cops that he'd parked near Norman Avenue at 11:30 pm, but when he returned 10 hours later, he found his driver's-side window was broken and the money had been taken from the glove compartment.

— Aaron Short

**90TH PRECINCT**

Southside-Bushwick

Motorino bikes

A thief stole delivery bicycles from Motorino Pizzeria on Graham Avenue this month.

The owner of the popular Neapolitan-style pie palace said that he'd parked six bicycles in the restaurant's parking lot near Devos Street at 7 pm on Feb. 11.

He returned a week later to find them all gone.

**Powers bicycle**

A perp knocked a cyclist off his wheels on Pow-

## POLICE BLOTTER

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ers Street and took his cash on Feb. 20.

The cyclist was riding toward Union Avenue at 6 am when a perp jumped out behind his bike and punched him in the head. The victim fell down and the perp grabbed \$150 and ran away.

**UN stupid**

A thief took a woman's pocketbook in the stairway of a S. Fifth Street building on Feb. 15.

The victim told cops that she was interviewing people for the United Nations at around 3 pm and left her bag on the stairway of the building near Keap Street.

She later glanced down the hallway and saw the perp snatch the pocketbook and flee.

— Aaron Short

**McD's money**

A perp slugged a 62-year-old man inside a McDonald's restaurant before he coughed up his cash on Feb. 20.

The man was eating his dinner at 7:35 pm in the Broadway restaurant when the perp approached him and snatched him four times, demanding, "I want the money."

The victim gave him the cash and the perp left toward Marcy Avenue.

**Boerum break**

A thief broke into a woman's Boerum Street apartment on Feb. 17 and stole her phone.

The woman was sleeping inside her apartment near

Bushwick Avenue, when she awoke to noises at 9:10 am. She saw the thief, wearing a black hooded sweatshirt and a black backpack, rummaging around.

He grabbed the phone and fled.

**Car roundup**

At least two cars were messed with last week:

• A thief stole a Ford from S. First Street overnight on Feb. 20. The owner returned to the spot near Hooper Street at 7 am to find the car gone.

• A woman parked her Honda on Roebling Street near S. Second Street at 7:30 pm on Feb. 15, but when she returned at 10:30 am the next day, it was gone.

— Aaron Short

**88TH PRECINCT**

Fort Greene-Clinton Hill

Cupid crook

A thief ransacked a woman's car parked near the corner of Grand and Lexington avenues this past Valentine's Day — sniping a revealing list of clothes and accessories that included \$600 in lingerie, a pair of pink stilettos and two coats.

Someone forced open the car after it was parked at 10 pm, the victim told police, asking that the thief was quite thorough in his search: He found the lingerie after rifling through a suitcase inside the trunk.

— Thomas Tracy

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# Naked lunchroom!

PS 107 left without its cook in city budget cut

By L. Gottesdiener  
The Brooklyn Paper

Parents at Park Slope's PS 107 are fired up over a city decision to transfer their beloved lunch lady because the lunchroom serves slightly less than the minimum daily requirement of school meals.

The Department of Education has transferred Lucy Torres—who has worked at the school for 17 years—because her school is about 50 PBAs short of the required 300 lunches.

Principal Cynthia Holton. "We feel deflated."

Torres didn't want to speak about the transfer, but last week, many parents and administrators were quite vocal about the loss.

"It's a huge bummer," said Brendan Vaughan, whose son is in first grade. "It would be terrific to find a way for her to stay."

Torres's transfer is causing extra concern because in place of the usual lunchroom fare of quasi-meat with a side of microwaved who-knows-what, she served

fresh vegetables and pasta sauced with basil straight from the school's outdoor garden, which she helped build.

"They have better lunch now than they've ever had," said Raisa Maldonado, who has a 10-year relationship with the school. "My granddaughter loves the broccoli, the salad bar—who's ever heard of a salad bar at a school cafeteria?"

The Department of Education said it is transferring Torres to cut costs, given a nine-percent state fund-

ing cut proposed in Albany last week.

Torres began working at PS 107 in 1994, when all students qualified for the city's free lunch program. Over time, gentrification led to a decrease in the number of free lunches served every day—but parents say that Torres's extra effort should more than make up the difference and justify the slightly higher



Students at PS 107 enjoyed Lucy Torres's hummus at last year's "Harvest Festival," but the longtime lunch lady has been transferred in a bureaucratic shuffle.

pay she receives compared to her replacement.

"Our numbers are below the threshold, but the labor that goes into this food is more," said Wellness Committee member Jonathan Blumberg. "So it's not that she was performing a lower job on a higher salary."

And the bottom line for most parents wasn't numbers, but nourishment. "These are her children," said PTA President Mary Vines. "To have it be a bureaucratic numbers game is very frustrating."

The other day, there was tuna fish, and Lucy made it the way that my daughter likes it," Vines said.

## Beaten for no reason

78TH PRECINCT

Park Slope

A thug struck a man with a baseball bat on Fourth Avenue after wrongly suspecting him of robbing him on Feb. 14.

The victim told police that he was at Douglass Street at 3:15 when a man wearing a green jacket and a ski cap approached him shouting, "You took my bag," and accused the man of stealing his gift cards.

The victim responded that he didn't know what the thug was talking about and let him search his own bags.

When the search came up empty, the perp hit the man's left arm with a metal bat and fled down Fourth Avenue.

Tips travesty

A thug stole a waiter's wallet from the restaurant Barrio on Seventh Avenue on Feb. 19.

The victim told cops that he put his wallet on a shelf in the locker room around 8 pm at the end of his shift. After changing his clothes, he left the restaurant, which is at Third Street, without the wallet. When he returned minutes later, the billfold—and the \$1,650 it held—was nowhere to be found.

Pickpocketed

Thieves swiped at least two iPhones last week. Here are the details:

A thief swiped an Apple app-phone at Union Hall on Feb. 13. The victim told cops that she was at the club on Union Street near Fifth Avenue at 1 am when a perp bumped into her and lifted

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the device.

"Two hoodlums stole one on Union Street on Feb. 16. The victim told cops that she was between Fifth and Fourth avenues at 5:40 pm when two men wearing snorkel jackets approached her. One man pushed her and the other reached into her pocket to snatch the phone.

Car problems

At least four cars were swiped or broken into this week:

A car was robbed in the lot of towing company on 14th Street last week. The victim told cops that his 2008 Pontiac had been damaged in an accident on Feb. 11 and taken to a Towling and Collision lot Second and Third avenues for repair. But when he picked up the car four days later, he discovered that a fancy Di-ing system, two computers and a \$2,500 Breitling watch were missing.

A 1999 Honda Civic—one of the most-popular cars among parts-hungry thieves—was lifted from Second Street between Seventh and Eighth avenues between Feb. 15 and 18.

An even older Honda Civic was stolen from Third Street last week. The victim told cops that he had parked a 17-year-old sedan between Fourth and Fifth avenues on Feb. 12 and returned two days later to find

the antediluvian automobile gone.

A perp swiped a motorcycle from Douglass Street overnight on Feb. 15. The victim told cops that he parked his 2004 Vespa by Bond Street at 8 pm, and returned the next morning to find the Euro-scooter gone.

—Laura Gottesdiener

77TH PRECINCT

Prospect Heights

Charge off

A thief snagged an iPhone on Feb. 17 as its owner charged the pricey smartphone inside the Weather Up bar on Vanderbilt Avenue.

The victim said she had put the phone on a bar stool inside the watering hole between Dean and Bergen streets at 12:30 am, but left the bar without it. When she realized what she had done, she ran back to the bar, but it was already closed. Workers found the charger the next day—but not the phone itself.

Cell bust

A 15-year-old thief tried to snag a BlackBerry from a 34-year-old woman outside of her Lincoln Place home on Feb. 17—but ended in handcuffs when his victim chased him down and held him for police.

The victim was about to

enter her home between Underhill and Washington avenues at 5:03 pm when the thief snaked his hand into her coat pocket as he walked by.

Sneaking in

A thief entered an Eastern Parkway apartment on Feb. 14, taking a camera, iPod and two laptop computers.

The sneak entered the home between Underhill and Washington avenues through a bathroom window sometime after 7:15 am.

Hauled away

A goon with a lot of trash to take out swiped three Rubbermaid garbage pails from outside a Sterling Place home on Feb. 14.

The homeowner between Underhill and Washington avenues said her pails were only out for a half hour before the thief walked off with them at 7:30 pm.

Car cabin fever

Several cars were broken into in Prospect Heights this week. Here's what happened:

A crook broke the passenger-side window of a 1994 Volvo parked on Eastern Parkway on Feb. 16, taking \$12. The car was between Underhill and Washington avenues when the 6 pm break-in took place.

Someone smashed the front window to a 2005 Toyota parked on Dean Street on Feb. 15, taking a navigation system. The car had been parked between Washington and Grand avenues.

A goon broke into a car left on Atlantic Avenue on Feb. 19, taking \$50, a navigation system, a set of CDs

and a pair of sneakers. The car was between Grand and Classon avenues.

—Thomas Tracy

68TH PRECINCT

Bay Ridge-Dyker Heights

Flat broke

A clever thief stole more than \$7,000 from a car stopped at 92nd Street on Feb. 16 after telling the ride's owner he would fit his flat tire.

The victim told cops that he was at a red light between Battery Avenue and Parrott Place at around 3:45 pm when the unknown perp approached his car and told him that his rear tire was flat.

The victim got out of the car while the perp pretended to change the tire. The thief then sneaked inside the car, found \$7,440 under the seat and fled.

Construx creep

A handy man stole six power tools and copper from a 96th Street construction site overnight on Feb. 15.

Cops say that the perp snuck onto the site, which is between Third and Fourth avenues, sometime after 7 pm to swipe a drill, screw gun and other tools.

Jewel thief

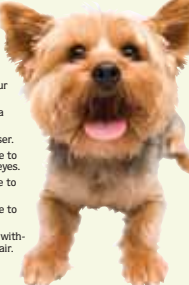
A thief broke into a Fort Hamilton Parkway house on Feb. 14 to steal pricey rings, a chain and a bracelet.

The victim told cops that he was at work at around 1 pm when he received a call from his alarm company that his front door may have been tampered with. When the victim arrived home, which is between 94th and 95th streets, he saw that his door was forced open and that his jewelry was gone.

—Alex Rush

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7. Your hairdresser doesn't have to clean your ears.
8. Your hairdresser doesn't have to give you a sanitary trim.
9. You don't go for eight weeks without washing or brushing your hair.
10. Your hairdresser doesn't wash and clean your rear end.



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# ROAD RAGE!

There's an ambulance in the bike lane

By Natalie O'Neill  
The Brooklyn Paper

An ambulance driver who abandoned traffic-choked Prospect Park West to use the controversial bike lane as a shortcut was hardly a lone rogue.

Drivers told The Brooklyn

Paper that traffic backups on the boulevard—which was narrowed from three lanes to two last summer to accommodate the two-way cycle path—occasionally force them to maneuver around cars into the bike lane during rush hour.

"Using the lane is better than losing a life," said one driver, who requested anonymity because such driving is not sanctioned. The desire to get patients to New York Methodist Hospital no doubt motivated the paramedic who was captured



Bike lane foes caught an ambulance using the Prospect Park West cycle path in December.

on video driving in the bike lane—a piece of YouTube footage that has inflamed an already heated debate about the bike lane.

"It's really, really scary," said James Bernard, a member of Community Board 6 and an opponent of the bike lane.

Lane critics, who snatched the black-and-white video at 4:15 pm on Dec. 21, have used the footage to make the case that the two-way path is at best a traffic bottleneck and at worst, a ticking time bomb.

At the top of Prospect Park West, near the park's towering arches, drivers

must watch for quick-moving cyclists, joggers and merchants hauling crates to the Grand Army Plaza farmer's market. Add a stray ambulance into the mix and it's the recipe for chaos, critics say.

But footage of the ambulance in the bike lane is just anecdotal baloney, said Department of Transportation officials. Ambulances all over the city break traffic laws—and take calculated risks in emergency situations—and this is nothing groundbreaking.

Even after seeing the video, Department spokesman Seth Solomonow de-

fended the new lane by reciting data points that the agency has been putting out all year: "Speeding is down, cycling is up and dangerous sidewalk cycling has been all but eliminated," he said.

Overall, the department reported, injuries to all street users decreased by 21 percent after the lane was installed in July.

And fewer drivers are now treating Prospect Park West like a speedway.

Before the lane was built, 75 percent of cars would exceed the speed limit; now only 20 percent do. Crashes, too, are down from an average of 30 to 25 in pre-lane years.

Neighbors for Better Bike

Lanes, which opposes the Prospect Park West route, is not impressed. After the report went out, the group

slammed the city for fudging numbers. Plus, many members of the group oppose the lane because it has ruined the grand look of Prospect Park West.

The group's president, Louise Hainline, has been recording video footage of the bike lane in hopes of documenting its danger, which explains how she captured the rouge (or hero, depending on your perspective) ambulance driver.

She claims that the incident on camera is just one of three cases in which a motor vehicle used the lane in the past three months. (She did not provide The Brooklyn Paper with documentation.)

In another incident, a truck driver "wasn't able to get around an area that police had blocked off," so he

used the bike lane.

"We have witnesses," she said.

That trucker was less justified than ambulance drivers in Park Slope, but are obviously feeling the same stress.

"You just can't go on Prospect Park West" during rush hour, said one driver for Midwood Ambulance Service. "I take other streets."

Another driver admitted that she'd made that mistake and was once forced to use the bike lane.

"What are you going to do?" she said with a creased brow. "There was no other choice."

Representatives at the fire department and New York Methodist Hospital could not be reached immediately for comment Tuesday evening.

## BIKE

Continued from page 1

• Make the Department of Transportation compile all collision data involving bicycles.

• Make cops report both car and bicycle infractions online every month, along with info about what led to the bang-ups.

• Make the Department of Transportation explain—with data to back it up—

why it has rejected a request for a traffic light or stop sign. And it needs to show data to back up the decision.

Whatever the collected data show, critics of the Prospect Park West bike lane said the very existence of the legislation is evidence that they aren't alone in their fight.

"It's not just a local problem; it's citywide," said Lois Carswell of Seniors for Safety, which has long opposed the lane. "There have been a lot of troubling ways the city has constructed these lanes."

But the city says that its Prospect Park West bike lane has made the neighborhood safer for drivers and for cyclists.

In January, the Department of Transportation said that its data shows that crashes are down 16 percent and those that occur are half as likely to include an injury; cars are much more likely to drive at or below the speed limit; and that no pedestrian injuries or pedestrian-cyclist crashes have occurred since the city has installed last June.

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## HALL

Continued from page 1

include 400 parking spaces, a percentage of which will be available for the general public—the "cherry" atop a "magnificent cake," as Halkias has called it.

But critics say the plan is not a just dessert.

"He should build within the confines of the law like everyone else," charged 16th Street resident Dr. Sampanopoulos. "I know he wants to build 11 stories, but I want to be a millionaire and I want world peace—I want lots of things, so why should he be any different?"

The petition is the creation of the new South Slope Residents Committee.

"This will bring more street traffic, noise, more wear and tear on the roads, and more garbage," said Josephine Fassari, a 16th Street resident.

The garage would occupy five floors below the hotel, and is critical to the plan's success, Halkias insisted.

"If they want me to get rid of the garage there will be parking apoplexy, and a six-story building that will serve no one."

At the first public airing of the project last month, local leaders celebrated the garage, seen as a solution to the congestion brought on by the reemergence of Fifth Avenue, and the development that mushroomed after the 2005 rezoning.

If the plan is scrapped, Halkias warned, he'll have to bring in a "low-end clientele in large numbers" to make ends meet. He later clarified that he meant "ethnic concerts," such as a recent Balkan festival that brought over 3,000 merry-makers to the catering hall.

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## Why vacations are Dad's little helper

It's school vacation, and I'm away with the kids, skiing, having a blast, hanging with friends from breakfast until we all collapse at night. My wife wanted to come, planned to, but stayed behind because of work.

Of course, she misses us; the house seems empty. So she wants to feel part of our trip, connected to the girls and their experiences. Technology offers so many ways for us to reach out to far away mom. With photos, videos, texts, e-mails, I could bombard her with constant updates. "Going to breakfast," I could tweet. "Eating breakfast. Good eggs." (Attach photo of eggs.) "Done with breakfast." (Send video of daughters brushing teeth.) I could keep this up all

day — except I'd go crazy and wouldn't enjoy my vacation. My kids would get sick of me and my intrusions. Sure, I miss the woman, but this is my time off. Is one phone call enough? Once-a-mail — a longish one? Two texts and a photo? What's the etiquette these days?

When the girls were little and one of us was away, it felt important to call each day. We assumed that regular contact made them understand that we were still thinking about them even when physically absent.

The first time my wife was away for more than a week, we jumped through hoops to do the right thing. Of course, she'd call, but we worked hard to make her feel involved in the home life, faxing her newsletters that I made with the kids and e-mailing photos.

At some point, the kids got old enough to understand that people go away and then they come back, at which point, this contact became more for my wife than the kids. There may well be a gender thing here: moms feel guilty being away and harbor secret fears that they're not needed. Right now, they're here and mom's in Brooklyn — and that's all right.



By Scott Sager

For my kids, when a parent is absent, their lives go on. At home, there is still school, gymnastics, piano, breakfast, lunch and dinner. Today, they will suit up and take death-defying runs in a herd of daring, delighted kids swooping down the mountain. Even though I'm here, my importance only comes from the cash in my wallet and my ability to find missing glove liners. My wife, well, they'll remember her at some point, maybe on the way home.

This is good. Not that they ignore their parents, but that they don't need us constantly anymore. It's not that they don't miss mom, just that as teenagers they are in the moment, and when parents aren't present, well, the moment goes on.

My daughters will be happy to see mom when we return. They'll enjoy telling her about the trip, the wild falls, the movies they watched, the games they played, maybe even the eggs. Right now, they're here and mom's in Brooklyn — and that's all right.



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### FAMILY CALENDAR

#### SAT, FEB. 26

11 am: Story time. Free. Greenlight Bookstore (686 Fulton St. between South Elliott Place and South Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 246-0200).

12:30 pm and 2:30 pm: "Alice in Wonderland." Lewis Carroll's classic — with marionettes. \$8 (kids, \$7). Puppetworks (338 South Ave. at Fourth Street in Park Slope, (718) 965-3391).

1 pm: "Sleeping Beauty." Free. Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch (Flatbush Avenue at Eastern Parkway in Grand Army Plaza in Park Slope, (718) 230-2100).

3 pm: "Treasure Island." Robert Louis Stephenson's classic pirate tale. \$20-\$45.

Irontide Center (85 S. Oxford St. at Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 486-9233).

SUN, FEB. 27  
12:30 pm and 2:30 pm: "Alice in Wonderland." See Saturday, Feb. 26.

MON, FEB. 28  
4 pm: The films of Charles and Ray Eames. \$7. Cobble Hill Cinema (242 Cst. between Butler & Douglass streets in Cobble Hill, (718) 596-9113).

THURS, MARCH 3  
4 pm: Story craft. Listen to a story and then create a story! Free. Pacific Library (25 Fourth Ave. at Pacific Street in Park Slope, (718) 638-1531).

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The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings

Feb. 25–March 3, 2011

# The DUMBO crawl

Where to eat, drink and make merry while looking at art

By Michelle Manetti  
The Brooklyn Paper

There's a certain check list when it comes to DUMBO, that tiny, bridge-bound neighborhood on the waterfront. There's Grimaldi's for pizza; Jacques Torres for chocolate; Dewey's Candy Store for candies; the Powerhouse for great readings, art books and events; Rice for a quick, fresh Asian meal; BoConcepts for modern furniture; and Baby's for a family-friendly meal and great pie after. But there are plenty of other great attractions—for food, booze or just shopping. So, as you're hopping around the neighborhood at next weekend's inaugural Brooklyn art fair, Verge Art Brooklyn, here's our guide to where to eat, drink and shop beyond the usual suspects.

## Shopping

**Neighborhoodies:** This is the only store in Brooklyn where you can buy custom hand-stitched items made in minutes. From heavy hoodies to T-shirts, you can have your thoughts and ideas displayed at a great price with items ranging from \$32.99 to \$79.99. "DUMBO is great for small businesses," said owner Lori Fields. "We have so much support and style here."

**Neighborhoodies** 26 Jay St. between John and Plymouth streets, (718) 243-2265. No stitching on Saturday, closed Sundays. For info, visit [neighborhoodies.com](http://neighborhoodies.com).

**Modern: Anthology:** It may have a strong masculine vibe, but owners Becka Citron and John Marsala stock their new-ish store with rustic goods that anyone would find appealing. From great bedding and leather bags to razors and art books, this store is one unique emporium. There's even a happy hour the first Thursday of the month!

**Modern: Anthology** 168 Jay St. between Front and Water streets, (718) 522-3020. Appointments only on Monday. For info, visit [www.modernanthology.com](http://www.modernanthology.com).

**Egg by Susan Lazar:** There's just something about spring and babies. Chances are, you know someone who's expecting, and for stylish baby clothes, including organic items, look no further than this sleek shop. And for those who are expecting, there's also a great selection of equally fashionable maternity clothes. Egg by Susan Lazar 72 Jay St. at Front Street, (718) 422-7811. For info, visit [www.egg-baby.com](http://www.egg-baby.com).

**Shops @ Green Desk:** This isn't your ordinary shopping mall. At the Shops @ Green Desk you can find small, artisanal shops like the Antique Boutique and Mirikka, which sell vintage jewelry and period-based clothing, a custom footwear store and jewelry shop. And if you're looking for cute clothes for your tiny tots, Little Poco and Madison Parker bring the cool factor to clothing and accessories for babies and toddlers with Latin and Brooklyn styles, while Huggy Bunny takes baby clothing back to classics.

"We do all animal and nature-based clothing," said owner and designer Andrea Chrem. "We focus on happy colors and scenery."



Photo by Jeff and Greg Warner



Photo by Jeff and Greg Warner

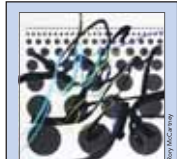


Photo by Jeff and Greg Warner

**Get the scoop on Verge Art Brooklyn**  
SEE PAGE 11

If you're in the mood for a delicious treat after you've done your shopping, you can stop by Nuts 'n' Nuts for gourmet roasted cashews or O'Creeps which sells organic, low-calorie crepes.

**Shops @ Green Desk** 145 Front St. between Jay and Pearl streets in DUMBO, (718) 210-3650. Store hours vary.

**Spring:** This art and design store not only looks cool, but sells some of the most unique items you'll ever find. From a "dandelion" (a light made from real dandelion seeds) to rings made from Legos, you'll feel the creative energy flowing the moment you step in.

"Even though DUMBO is ever-changing, it has always had an interesting creative community," said owner Anna Costantino.



Photo by Jeff and Greg Warner



Photo by Jeff and Greg Warner

**Down under:** (Clockwise from top left) Show off your neighborhood pride, like Adenike Omisore, with a sweatshirt from Neighborhoodies. PS Bookshop relocated to an enormous space on Front Street. At Stewart/Stand, quirky items abound. Chef Dema Baldemic of the 7 Old Fulton Street restaurant shows off his 30-ounce bone-in rib-eye for \$28. For handmade crafts and tasty treats, head to The Shops @ Green Desk, which isn't your average mall.

expands to include osso bucco, steaks and fish. And all night long, there's a great bar with a vast beer selection and specialty cocktails, including one named after our editor (it's a girly drink, so go figure). There's also a single-screen movie theater in house, where you can watch indie films and drink indie brews.

**Rebar** 147 Front St. between Pearl and Jay streets, (718) 766-9110. For info, visit [rebarnyc.com](http://rebarnyc.com).

Water Street Owner and DUMBO legend Jeffrey Rodman changes his menu regularly, so you never know exactly what you're in for — except a good time. Now, he's going for Southern hospitality, with a new Dixie-themed menu that includes delicious, fall-off-the-bone babybacks. The bar is hopping during football season, and the after-hours Underwater Lounge downstairs is the neighborhood's secret nightclub. And Rodman has Anchor Steam on tap. What more could you want?

Water Street 66 Water St. between Main and Dock streets, (718) 625-9152.

**68 Jay Street Bar:** Once an unassuming bar, this sparsely lit space bills itself as a dive bar. See DUMBO on page 11

## Food/Drink

**Rebar:** It doesn't matter what time of day you're in DUMBO — the gastropub Rebar does not disappoint. For lunch, it offers an \$8 meal (including tax and unlimited soft drinks) that includes a haute Philly cheesesteak, a burger, a pulled pork sandwich and salads. For dinner, the menu

## CINEMA

### Badass films

Kim Jee-woon is a damaged filmmaker — but the Brooklyn Academy of Music means that in the best way possible.

The controversial South Korean gore-teur is a master of shock and splatter — and you can see why this month, as BAM screens six of his films in the appropriately titled retrospective, "Severely Damaged."

That includes the horror picture, "A Tale of Two Sisters," the gonzo Western "The Good, The Bad and The Weird," and his latest film, "I Saw the Devil" (pictured), a disturbing thriller in which a lawman enacts a brutal revenge on the murderer of his pregnant fiancée.

"All revenge films have these false happy endings," said Jee-woon, who'll be at the Feb. 25 screening for a Q&A. "So I made this as a new form of revenge film ... to stay closer to the realistic emotions of vengeance."

It worked: "I Saw the Devil" was initially banned in Korea.

"Severely Damaged" at the Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100] Feb. 25-March 2. Tickets \$12 (members \$7). For info, visit [www.bam.org](http://www.bam.org). —Ethan Alter

## COMEDY

### 'Funny' stuff

Michael Showalter is a tad obsessed with process.

In "Mr. Funny Pants," the comedian's new quasi-memoir, he spends five chapters discussing writing the book, including a preface, post-preface, and post-post preface, and even fake reviews for the finished product.

It's a tactic that may fail in less skilled hands, but makes for a brainy, offbeat and, yes, funny, literary debut filled with irreverent, clever pieces — including an imaginary interview with Charlie Rose — as well as tidbits from his own life.

Showalter may be new to the publishing world, but he's a legend on the "Comedy Central circuit." To celebrate his new book, he'll perform (natch!) at Eugene Mirman's "Pretty Good Friends" show, then read at BookCourt in Cobble Hill on March 1.

Michael Showalter at the Bell House [149 Seventh St. between Second and Third streets in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510, Feb. 27, 8 pm, \$10; BookCourt [163 Court St. between Pacific and Dean streets in Cobble Hill, (718) 875-3677], March 1, 7 pm, free. For info, visit [www.michaelsowalter.net](http://www.michaelsowalter.net).

—Meredith Deliso

## DINING

### Crepes Italia

It's a cross-cultural crepe smackdown in Park Slope, where an Italian take on the traditional French pancakes promises to knock the socks — er, chaussettes — off even the most devout Francophile.

The newcomer is Crespella, an espresso bar and Italian creperie that opened two weeks ago on Seventh Avenue between Eighth and Ninth streets.

"A lot of people know crepes as being just a French thing, but they are actually very popular in Italy," said co-owner Maria Zito-Bucca, a Brooklyn-born Sicilian, which explains the trismus crepe with mascarpone and boscetti or the savory mortadella, fontina and arugula crepe.

In another break with France, Zito-Bucca (right, with Santina Adragna) uses chickpea flour instead of the traditional wheat flour to lend a saltness.

"I am a huge fan of panicle sandwiches," said Zito-Bucca. "In honor of my guilty pleasure, I wanted to use chickpea flour to create the crepes."

And it doesn't matter which European country carries your allegiance — everyone loves the Stumptown coffee.

Crespella [321 Seventh Ave. between Eighth and Ninth streets in Park Slope, (718) 778-2980]. —Laura Gottfriesener

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# THE TO GO

## EDITORS' PICKS

FRIDAY February 25	SATURDAY February 26	SATURDAY February 26	THURSDAY March 3	FRIDAY March 4
<b>High ball</b> Come to booze-and-choose fundraiser for the City Reliquary, Williamsburg's most beloved micro-museum. Look, we could say a lot of nice things about the Reliquary, but we'd rather talk about the booze: Kings County Distilling and Brooklyn Distilling. Red Hook Wines and beer from Brooklyn Brewery will make this an evening to remember (though difficult after all that drinking). 7 pm. City Reliquary Fundraiser at the Brooklyn Kitchen 100 Frost St. at Meeker Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 389-2982. Tickets, \$75-\$100.	<b>Ripe tango</b> This event is pure seduction as Tango Buenos Aires performs the original "forbidden dance" (take that, lambada fans!). We're talking sultry music, skimpy costumes and more tight embraces than at Charlie Sheen's birthday party. "The two bodies moving together create fire" said Artistic Director Lucrecia Laurel. <i>play, caramba!</i> 8 pm. "Tango Tango y Pasión" at the Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts at Brooklyn College 2900 Campus Rd. at Hill Place in Flatbush, (718) 951-4500. Tickets \$45. For info, visit <a href="http://www.brooklyncenteronline.org">www.brooklyncenteronline.org</a> .	<b>Fried frame</b> You know him as a great New Yorker cartoonist, but we know him as the greatest late-in-life, country music singer. Two years ago, Friedman put out "Weary Things," and it went straight to number 1 on the Brooklyn Paper chart. Now, he's back with "Lasers and Dreams," which is just as good. Seeing him live is a treat, especially at Jalopy (with the \$3 Tecates). 9 pm. Andy Friedman, 310 Jalopy 315 Columbia St. between Hamilton Avenue and Woodhull Street in Columbia Street Waterfront, (718) 395-3214.	<b>Hip hop ballet</b> The name may be Brooklyn Ballet, but the game is fusion. "From Baroque to Hip Hop," shows the evolution of ballet from its roots in the French court to its genre-bending 21st century. The highlight, is the world premiere of "Close to You," which unites ballet and hip hop — with dancers forgoing tutus for graffiti-splattered costumes. 7 pm. "From Baroque to Hip Hop" at the Schermerhorn 160 Schermerhorn St. between Hoyt and Smith streets in Downtown, (718) 246-0146. Tickets \$25 (\$15 for students and seniors).	<b>Give blood!</b> Donate a pint of blood at the Kelo of Brooklyn brewery and you get a coupon for a free pint — of beer. It's the latest effort by brewmaster Kelly Taylor to save lives and get us all drunk trying. The free pint coupon can be redeemed at a variety of bars nearby, so you can refill your bloodstream with beer. 4–8 pm. "Pint for Pint Program" at Kelo of Brooklyn 529 Waverly Ave. between Fulton Street and Atlantic Avenue in Clinton Hill, (718) 398-2731. To RSVP, e-mail <a href="mailto:info@keloofbrooklyn.com">info@keloofbrooklyn.com</a> or register online at <a href="http://www.rybloodcenter.org">www.rybloodcenter.org</a> .

# NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

**FRI, FEB. 25**

**CITY RELIQUARY COCKTAIL BENEFIT** \$75 (\$100 for happy hour). 7 pm. The Brooklyn Kitchen 100 Frost St. at Meeker Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 752-4842. [www.cityreliquary.org](http://www.cityreliquary.org).

**FILM, "I SAW THE DEVIL"** Followed by a Q and A with the director, Kim 2-Woon. \$12 (members, \$7). 7 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music 10 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100. [www.bam.org](http://www.bam.org).

**THEATER, "THE LASSURE ISLAND"** Robert Louis Stephenson's classic pirate tale now adapted for the stage. \$20-\$45. 7:30 pm. Ironside Center 155 S. Oxford St. at Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 488-9233. [www.ironside.org](http://www.ironside.org).

**THEATER, "THE DIARY OF A MAD-MAN"** Geoffrey Rush stars as the titular madman in an adaptation of Cope's darkly comic short story. \$20-\$95. 7:30 pm. BAM Harvey Theater 651 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100. [www.bam.org](http://www.bam.org).

**THEATER, "ROUGH MAGIC"** The Department of Theater performs the modern retelling of Shakespeare's "The Tempest." \$15, \$12 seniors, \$6 students. 7:30 pm. New Workshop Theater at Brooklyn College 2900 Campus Rd. at Hill Place in Flatbush, (718) 951-4500. [dephome.brooklyn.cuny.edu/theater](http://dephome.brooklyn.cuny.edu/theater).

**THEATER, "WOYZECK"** The Circle Theater of New York performs chilling tale of one man's descent into madness. 7:30 pm. Brooklyn Museum 222 Park Ave. at Grand Street in Park Slope, (718) 657-6516. [www.brooklynmuseum.com](http://www.brooklynmuseum.com).

**MUSIC, SHARON GOLDMAN** Contemporary folk. \$10 adults, \$6 children. 7:30 pm. Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture 53 Prospect Park West at Second Street in Park Slope, (718) 768-2972. [www.bscec.org](http://www.bscec.org).

**THEATER, "IN THE PONY PALACE/FOOTBALL"** Gender roles get turned on their head in this new play about a high school girls football team. \$15. 8 pm. The Bushwick Starr 207 Starr St. between Wyckoff and Irving avenues in Bushwick, (718) 230-5740. [www.thebushwickstar.org](http://www.thebushwickstar.org).

**MUSIC, "ROCK'N'BURLESQUE SPECTACULAR"** Featuring Les Straightjackets and the World Famous Portant Sisters. \$15. 8 pm. The Bell House 149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510. [www.thebellhouse.com](http://www.thebellhouse.com).

**MUSIC, CLASSICAL CONCERT** Selections from Schubert, Liszt with Philip Schoof Fisher, piano. \$25-\$30 senior, \$15 student. 8 pm. Bargemusic Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street and Furman Street in DUMBO, (718) 624-2083. [www.bargemusic.org](http://www.bargemusic.org).

**DANCE, "WILD BEASTS SPEAK AND MOVE"** New performance work of Becca Blackwell, Virginia Venk, Raina von Waldenburg and Gretchen Winterkorn. \$8-\$15. 8 pm. Brooklyn Arts Exchange 421 Fifth Ave. at Eighth Street in Park Slope, (718) 832-0018. [www.bax.org](http://www.bax.org).

**MUSIC, SOUTHEAST ENGINE** With Bird Of Youth. The Collection Agency and Empress Hotel. \$8. 8 pm. Rock Shop 249 Fourth Ave. between Carroll and President streets in Park Slope, (718) 230-5740. [www.therockshopny.com](http://www.therockshopny.com).

**MUSIC, FOUR BANDS** Wines Under Tension, Lightcuts, Glass Ghost and Intoxycouture. \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. 8 pm. Littlefield 1027 Degraw St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Gowanus, (718) 855-3388. [www.littlefieldnyc.com](http://www.littlefieldnyc.com).

**THEATER, "THE SISTER"** \$18. 8:30 pm. The Box 375 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 907-6189. [www.brooklyntheatre.com](http://www.brooklyntheatre.com).

**MUSIC, LOWER DENS** \$10. 9 pm. Music Hall of Williamsburg 66 N. Sixth St. between Kent and Wythe avenues in Williamsburg, (718) 486-5400. [www.musichallofwilliamsburg.com](http://www.musichallofwilliamsburg.com).

**DANCE, MIDWINTER DISCO** Disco, electro and techno house music. 10 pm. Ultraviolet 424A Third Ave. between Sixth and Seventh streets in Gowanus, (718) 596-6627. [www.ultravioletbrooklyn.com](http://www.ultravioletbrooklyn.com).

**SAT, FEB. 26**

**MUSIC, KARAOKE** Free. Midnight. Union Hall 702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400. [www.unionhallnyc.com](http://www.unionhallnyc.com).

**SAT, FEB. 26**

**PERFORMANCE**

**MUSIC, JAZZ CONCERT** The iconic Eric Frazier performs his own brand of jazz. \$12 (\$15 non-residents). 2–4 pm. Brooklyn Historical Society 128 Pierrepont St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 222-4111. [www.brooklynhistory.org](http://www.brooklynhistory.org).

**THEATER, "THE DIARY OF A MAD-MAN"** 2 and 7:30 pm. See Friday, Feb. 25.

**THEATER, "ROUGH MAGIC"** 2 and 7:30 pm. See Friday, Feb. 25.

**THEATER, "THE LEGEND OF BUSTER NEAL"** 3 and 8 pm. See Friday, Feb. 25.

**THEATER, "TREASURE ISLAND"** 3 and 8 pm. See Friday, Feb. 25.

**MUSIC, PRINCETON BELL** \$12. 8 pm. Union Hall 702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400. [www.unionhallnyc.com](http://www.unionhallnyc.com).

**MUSIC, THE WALLING WALL** With The Locom, Soft Landing and Rice Cultivation Society. \$10. 8 pm. Rock Shop 249 Fourth Ave. between Carroll and President streets in Park Slope, (718) 230-5740. [www.therockshopny.com](http://www.therockshopny.com).

**THEATER, "IN THE PONY PALACE/FOOTBALL"** 8 pm. See Friday, Feb. 25.

**DANCE, "FUGO TANGO Y PASION"** Performed by Tango Buenos Aires. \$36-\$48. 8 pm. Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts at Brooklyn College 2900 Campus Rd. at Hill Place in Flatbush, (718) 951-4500. [www.brooklyncenteronline.org](http://www.brooklyncenteronline.org).

**MUSIC, JOHNNY CASH BIRTHDAY BASH** Tribute show featuring Alex Battles and The Whiskey Rebellion. \$20. 8 pm. The Bell House 149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510. [www.thebellhouse.com](http://www.thebellhouse.com).

**MUSIC, CLASSICAL CONCERT** Selections from Haydn, Shostakovich, Brahms with Nicholas Canellakis, cello. \$35-\$30 senior, \$15 student. 8 pm. Bargemusic 1 Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street and Furman Street in DUMBO, (718) 624-2083. [www.bargemusic.org](http://www.bargemusic.org).

**DANCE, "WILD BEASTS SPEAK AND MOVE"** 8 pm. See Friday, Feb. 25.

**MUSIC, AN EVENING OF CLASSICAL GUITAR** Works by 19th-century composers. 8:30 pm. Old

## CIVIC CALENDAR

**MON, FEB. 28**

**Community Education District 14.** Town Hall meeting with Schools Chancellor Cathie Black, Juan Marcel Campos 266 Rutledge St. between Harrison and Marcy avenues in Williamsburg, (718) 392-7628. 6 pm.

**The Gowanus Dredgers.** Annual meeting. 7 pm. 17th Avenue Committee 621 DeGraw St. at Fourth Avenue in Gowanus, [waterfrontmuseum.org/dredgers](http://waterfrontmuseum.org/dredgers).

**Brooklyn Civic Alliance.** New civic organization forms. RSVP required. 7 pm. Franchise Restaurant 679 Fifth Ave. between 12th and 13th streets in Midtown.

**TUES, MARCH 1**

**Community Board 2 Economic Development and Job Creation Committee.** Monthly meeting. 6 pm. Long Island University [DeKalb and Flatbush avenues in Downtown, (718) 596-5410].

**WED, MARCH 2**

**Community Board 2 Health, Environment and Social Services Committee.** Monthly meeting. 6 pm. Brooklyn Hospital [DeKalb Ave. at 5th St. in Clinton Hill, (718) 596-5410].

**THUR, MARCH 3**

**Community Board 2 Health, Environment and Social Services Committee.** Monthly meeting. 6 pm. Brooklyn Hospital [DeKalb Ave. at 5th St. in Clinton Hill, (718) 596-5410].

**FRI, MARCH 4**

**Community Board 2 Health, Environment and Social Services Committee.** Monthly meeting. 6 pm. Brooklyn Hospital [DeKalb Ave. at 5th St. in Clinton Hill, (718) 596-5410].

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# Just insane!

Geoffrey Rush chews up the stage in 'Madman' at the BAM Harvey

**The Butcher of Flatbush Ave. Extension**

Geoffrey Rush should win an Oscar for "Diary of a Madman" at BAM. Obviously, he's going to win the naked gold statuette for his turn in "The King's Speech," now playing in the Fort Greene institution's movie wing, but what Rush is doing at the BAM Harvey in Gogol's hellishly funny tragedy

is acting—real stage acting—in its highest form. The play itself is a wrenching thing—I'm not giving away anything to tell you that you can judge this story by the title—as Rush's low-level administrative clerk Poprishchin descends into the worst hell of all: human delusion.

Act I is a comic joy, thanks entirely to Rush. After an ex-citing opening five minutes featuring Poprishchin's Finnish-born porter Tsvet (Nael Stone) gratingly mouthing the Russian

words for household objects, the clerk enters grandly, and the action of the play begins. At first, Poprishchin is, as he frequently describes himself, a gentleman, however humble, of glorious St. Petersburg—which you'd never know from Catherine

Initially, Rush plays Poprishchin as a man who knows his place in the bureaucratic order, and mocks himself even as he uses his poison quill to pen bitter tirades against that classic triumvirate of Russian literary tyrants: petty managers, mid-level Czarist officers, and landlords who won't so much as add a darning to the evening soup.

Now, watching an actor scribble in a journal typically doesn't make for scintillating theater ac-



Mad love: Geoffrey Rush stars in "Diary of a Madman," BAM's Gogol adaptation that runs through March 12.

musicians and beats them to the punchlines, the audience is not only in on the joke, but is being set up to hear the more-violent voices beginning to rage inside Poprishchin's head.

One of those voices—Poprishchin imagines at one point that dogs are talking and even sending each other letters—provides the play's comic highlight.

At first, the clerk is pleased by the dogs' attention to grammar and style. Sure, he's put off by the constant digressions about food—dogs simply can not stay on point!

but even as he jokes with the audience, he completely convinces us that he is, in fact, reading the work of two puppies.

It all turns dark when one of the dogs reports that his owner—Poprishchin's unrequited love interest—finds the clerk a buffoon, setting into motion a horrifying descent from Poprishchin's

borderline respectability to his certifiable madness.

The subsequent scenes in an insane asylum are particularly gruesome, as the thin veneer of civility to which the clerk had clung are stripped away in a form of delusion that could be in a Shakespearean tragedy from the 16th century or on a right-wing blog from the 21st.

All of the tragedy is accompanied by a smart, paranoid lighting scheme by Mark Shekhan that uses footlights to create a gargantuan shadow of the clerk against the

disjointed ceiling and wall of Martin's set. The effect is that we are witnessing a giant, out-of-scale human meltdown.

Of course, it all begins and ends with the performance by Rush, who may be 59 years old, but moves with the grace of an athlete in this delightful and horrifying spirit of a show.

## THEATER

**"The Diary of a Madman"** at BAM Harvey, 651 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100, Tuesdays-Saturdays, 7:30 pm and matinees on Sundays through March 12. Tickets \$20-\$95. For info, visit [www.bam.org](http://www.bam.org).

## BAR SCRAWL

By Bill Roundy



Hanson Dry is a charming little cocktail joint in Clinton Hill.

Granted, the drinks menu can be frustratingly vague:

"The Tux Whiskey, Risky, Classic." "Stout? \$6. Well, which Stout?"

But that gives you an excuse to chat with the bartender.

It's our variation on the Manhattan. Right now it's Victory Stout.

Which uses too much grenadine for my taste. -Bill

And it has lots of cute decorations!

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Hanson Dry (925 Fulton St. between Clinton and Waverly avenues, no phone). For info, visit [www.hansondrybrooklyn.com](http://www.hansondrybrooklyn.com).

# Ribs made the Brooklyn way

**Prime Time**

By Joe Raiola

Barbecue. What is it? Some say native Americans in Florida invented it by placing food in a hole with hot rocks.

If you ask anyone from the Midwest, he will tell you that it was invented somewhere west of Pittsburgh.

Some say in order to barbecue, one must cook over an open flame; others say indirect heat.

I always thought my uncle had one out in the backyard.

So really what is barbecue? Well, as a chef for more than 25 years, I can tell you that I'm not too sure either. But I do have a few tips.

First, never boil the ribs. Second, never ever boil the ribs.

Despite whatever you have heard about plunging ribs in boiling water, when ribs are boiled, the natural flavor and juices are left in the water and it is also harder for them to absorb flavor from your sauce because they are now waterlogged.

So always keep your ribs covered in a low dry heat. You can crisp them up later.

Finally? Leave lots of time for this recipe.

Joe Raiola is the executive chef at Morton's The Steakhouse (339 Adams St. between Wiloughby and Tilley streets in Downtown, (718) 596-2700).

## Roasted Rack of Ribs in a Maple and Brown Sugar B.B.Q Sauce

Yield 3-4 servings

2 12-bone pork St. Louis style ribs

### FOR THE DRY RUB

2 tbs. Kosher salt  
1 tbs. black pepper  
1 tbs. garlic powder  
1 tbs. paprika  
3 tbs. chili powder  
1 tbs. dried thyme  
1 tbs. light brown sugar  
1/2 tsp. cayenne pepper (more for spicier)

### FOR THE SAUCE

1 tbs. butter  
3 ounces bacon, sliced into 1/4-inch pieces  
1/2 cup white onions, diced small  
1/4 cup rice wine vinegar  
1/4 cup soy sauce  
3 cups catsup  
1/2 cup water  
6 ounces pure Vermont maple syrup  
1 tbs. chili powder  
1 tbs. light brown sugar  
2 tbs. spice rub

### FOR THE RIBS

Preheat the oven to 325 degrees. Rinse off the ribs and pat them dry with paper towels. In a rice-sized bowl, mix all the dry rub ingredients, making sure you have no sugar lumps. Massage the rub into the ribs on both sides. Shake off any excess rub.

Lay the seasoned ribs on a rack fat side up in another



quarter of an inch. The longer you cook them the softer they will get.

Remove them from the oven and let them rest for about 20 minutes. Now bring the oven up to low broil or fire up your grill outside. Lather both sides of the ribs with plenty of sauce and put them back in the oven (or on the grill) on a new clean pan fat side down this time. Let the sauce bake into the ribs for a few minutes and then add more sauce. Let them go until they look awesome. Cool, slice and eat.

And that's ribs, Brooklyn-style.

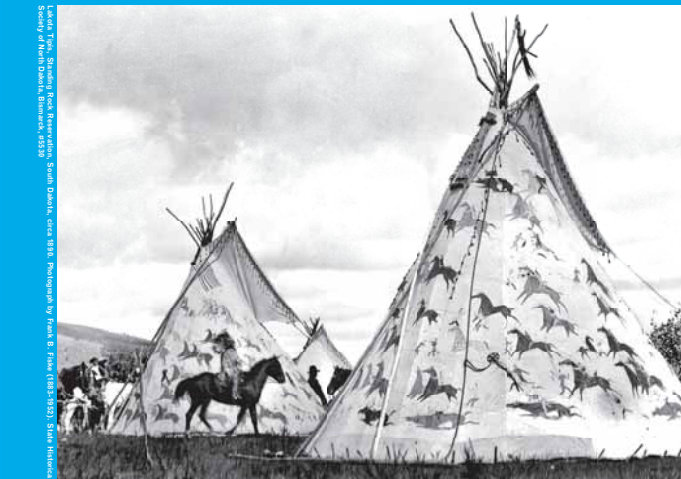
### FOR THE SAUCE

Melt the butter in a sauce pan and saute the onions and bacon over medium low heat until the onions have a little color and the bacon is tender, but not crispy. Then add the rest of the ingredients and mix them well. Let the sauce cook for about an hour and 15 minutes on a really low flame. The sauce should be just about simmering, hot enough to let the flavors develop, but not too hot so it burns. When the sauce is done, it should have a thick consistency. Use an immersion blender and puree the onions and bacon for a smooth sauce. But if you like it chunky, leave it chunky.

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# 'Clock' of ages

Miller's forgotten Depression show is dusted off for the big Recession

By Meredith Deliso  
The Brooklyn Paper

One of Arthur Miller's lesser-known plays is finally getting its due. Beginning on March 3, Brave New World Repertory Theatre presents a full-scale production of "The American Clock" at the Brooklyn Lyeum in Park Slope. And the Great Depression-era epic couldn't be more timely. "It's very satisfying to be able

## THEATER

**The American Clock** at the Brooklyn Lyeum (227 Fourth Ave., near President Street in Park Slope, (718) 857-4816), March 3-13, Thursdays at 8 pm, Saturdays at 3 pm and Sundays at 7 pm. Tickets: \$15. For info, visit [www.bravenewworldrep.org](http://www.bravenewworldrep.org).

do this play during what we hope will be the end of the Great Recession, because I don't think it

ever really had its moment in Arthur Miller's lifetime," said Artist Director Claire Beckman. "The hope this would be a warning to the people, that the clock is ticking on the American dream, and the play needs to be heard."

The play is based on Studs Terkel's oral history of the period, "Hard Times," but is also heavily mirrored after Miller's own childhood. Like Miller's family, the fictional Baums moved from Manhattan to Brooklyn after losing

Hard Times: Brave New World does justice to Arthur Miller's epic dramatic vaudeville, "The American Clock," with a full cast and live band in its production at the Brooklyn Lyeum in Park Slope. See it starting March 3.



Life in a Blender performed at Barbes on March 5.

## 9 DAYS...

Continued from page 8

Stone House 336 Third St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 768-3795, [www.theoldstonehouse.org](http://www.theoldstonehouse.org).

**THEATER, "THE SISTER":** 8:30 pm. See Friday, Feb. 25.

**MUSIC, ANDY FRIEDMAN:** Country crossover. \$10. 9 pm. Jolapay (315 Columbia St. between Hamilton Avenue and Woodhull Street in Columbia Street Waterfront, (718) 395-3214), [www.jolapay.biz](http://www.jolapay.biz).

**MUSIC, FLOATING KABA-RETTE:** With Jenny Rocha and Her Painted Ladies, Lady Scoutington, Maine Attraction, Harvest Moon, Lisa Natch, Michael Dubois, and hosts Traxie & Monkey. \$10. 10:30 pm. Galapagos Art Space (16 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 222-8500), [www.galapagosartspace.com](http://www.galapagosartspace.com).

**SALES AND MARKETS ARTISTS AND FLEAS:** 8 am-4 pm. (718) 507-5070, [www.artistsandfleas.com](http://www.artistsandfleas.com).

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avenues in Williamsburg, (718) 301-5763, [www.greennparkgreenmarket.com](http://www.greennparkgreenmarket.com).

**GREENPARK/MCCARREN PARK GREENMARKET:** 8 am-4 pm. Union Avenue and Driggs Avenue and 12th Street in Greenpoint, (212) 788-7476, [www.greennparkgreenmarket.com](http://www.greennparkgreenmarket.com).

**FORT GREENE PARK GREENMARKET:** 8 am-4 pm. (Washington Park) between DeWitt and W. 10th Avenue in Fort Greene, (212) 788-7476, [www.greennparkgreenmarket.com](http://www.greennparkgreenmarket.com).

**PARK SLOPE GREENMARKET:** KET. Brooklyn's answer to the Union Square. 9 am-4 pm. Park Slope United Methodist Church, 400 3rd Avenue at Eighth Street in Park Slope, (917) 328-7125, [www.parkslopegreenmarket.com](http://www.parkslopegreenmarket.com).

**MASSIVE BOOK SALE:** Hosted by the Park Slope United Methodist Church. Free. 9 am-4:30 pm. Park Slope United Methodist Church, 400 3rd Avenue at Eighth Street in Park Slope, (917) 328-7125, [www.parkslopegreenmarket.com](http://www.parkslopegreenmarket.com).

**BROOKLYN FLEA:** More than 100 vendors. 10 am-4 pm. Skylight One Hanson II at Hanson II, at Flatbush Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 230-4400, [www.brooklynflea.com](http://www.brooklynflea.com).

**FILM, "A BITTERWEET LIFE":** Part of "Severely Damaged: The Cinema of Kim Jiwon." \$12 (members, \$7). 6:30 and 9:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100), [www.bam.org](http://www.bam.org).

**SUN, FEB. 27**  
**PERFORMANCE**  
THEATER, "ROUGH MAGIC": 2 and 7:30 pm. See Friday, Feb. 25.

**THEATER, "THE DIARY OF A MADMAN":** 3 pm. See Friday, Feb. 25.

**MUSIC, CLASSICAL CONCERT:** 3 pm. See Saturday, Feb. 26.

**THEATER, "THE LEGEND OF BUSTER KEEL":** 4 pm. See Friday, Feb. 25.

**THEATER, "WOYZECK":** 5 pm. See Friday, Feb. 25.

**BROOKLYN INDOOR MARKET:** Collection of fashion and product designers. 11 am-7 pm. (50th and Union streets in Carroll Gardens, (718) 310-7635, [www.brooklynindoor.com](http://www.brooklynindoor.com).

**READING, JEFF CZEKA:** Illustrator of "Cats in Hats." Free. 1:30 pm. Word 126 Franklin Street in Milton Street in Greenpoint, (718) 383-0090, [www.word126.com](http://www.word126.com).

**TALK, CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT:** Learn about the politically turbulent 1960s. Free. 2-4 pm. Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch (Flatbush Avenue at Eastern Parkway in Grand Army Plaza in Park Slope, (718) 230-2100).

**TALK, SUSTAINABLE FARMING:** Led by Eric Hines, third-generation farmer. Free. 4 pm. Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch (Flatbush Avenue at Eastern Parkway in Grand Army Plaza in Park Slope, (718) 230-2100).

**MUSIC, BLUEGRASS AND COMEDY:** Hosted by New York's top comedian Matt. Free. 7:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100), [www.bam.org](http://www.bam.org).

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between Pacific and Dean streets in Cobble Hill, (718) 875-3677, [www.bookcourt.org](http://www.bookcourt.org).

**MUSIC, "THE NIGHTINGALE AND OTHER SHORT FALES":** Open by Igor Stravinsky is conducted by Jonathan Dubus. Russian with English subtitles. \$25. 7:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100), [www.bam.org](http://www.bam.org).

**THEATER, "THE DIARY OF A MADMAN":** 7:30 pm. See Friday, Feb. 25.

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**WED, MARCH 2**  
**HISTORIC TOLLY TOURS:** 1 pm. See Sunday, Feb. 27.

**FILM, "THE GOOD, THE BAD, THE UGLY":** Part of "Severely Damaged: The Cinema of Kim Jiwon." \$12 (members, \$7). 6:30 and 9:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100), [www.bam.org](http://www.bam.org).

**FILM, "LAST PLAY AT SHEA":** Billy Joel documentary screening and discussion. Free. 6 pm. Francis College (180 Remsen St. between Court and Clinton streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 489-5200).

**READING, GABRIELLE HAMILL:** Author of "Blood, Sweat, and Butter," in conversation with Peter Meacham. Free. 7-9 pm. Power House Arena (51 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 666-3049), [www.powerhousearena.com](http://www.powerhousearena.com).

**MUSIC, THE WYOS:** \$10. 7:30 pm. Rock Shop 249 Fourth Ave. between Carroll and President streets in Park Slope, (718) 230-5786, [www.therockshop.com](http://www.therockshop.com).

**THEATER, "THE DIARY OF A MADMAN":** 7:30 pm. See Friday, Feb. 25.

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**THEATER, "THE DIARY OF A MADMAN":** 7:

## FEND...

Continued from page 1

he claimed were "from the accuser."

"I wish nothing more than to serve you every demand (and maybe be forced...)" read a Dec. 27 e-mail that Stoll said was from the accuser to Hopkins. "I want nothing more than to please you, Master."

According to cops, the victim, whose name has not been released, responded to Hopkins's posting about an apartment on the online classified service. After she said she could live in his unit for free as long as she cooked for him, she flew from her native Wisconsin to New York on Feb. 4. Hopkins picked her up at the airport and drove her to the apartment—but once inside, he imprisoned her and told her that she would serve as his "slave."

Hopkins bound and gagged her for over a week and forced her to have oral and anal sex, sometimes handcuffing her to a radiator, according to law enforcement sources.

Hopkins let her leave the apartment several times to go to a restaurant job she held in Manhattan, cops said, but it is unclear why she did not call her mother for help until Feb. 12.

Her mother called Wisconsin cops, who got in touch with the NYPD, which said its officers raided the apart-

ment and found the victim trembling on Hopkins's bed without any clothes.

They also said that they observed a house set up for sexual abuse, bolts attached to the ceiling of the studio, and an array of sex toys, including ball gags, a whip, and a rope placed in a bag on the floor.

But in a jailhouse interview with the Daily News, Hopkins said, "I didn't rape her."

"A woman says anything happened to them in New York State, and they believe her and not the man," he added. "Everything they're saying I did was consensual. She could have left if she wanted to, but she didn't."

And a Feb. 5 e-mail that Stoll made available told Hopkins, "I want to serve my Master better. Can I cook for you tomorrow (sic)? I love you so much."

The e-mails make it clear that Hopkins is innocent, his lawyer said.

"It is plain [from the e-mails] these were consensual acts performed by two adults who freely entered into a voluntary, mutually fulfilling relationship," said Stoll.

These accusations arose when my client called the complainant's mother, to tell her that her daughter needed some emotional help, and should probably go back home."

## COLONIE

Continued from page 1

believe that it's the way to go," said Rosenberg.

The menu, which offers rotating delicacies including romanesco cauliflower, scallops with kabocha squash, rabbit lasagna, and octopus salad with fennel and pickled onions, was put together by Alex Sorenson, who worked with the trio briefly at their restaurant Public in SoHo.

The beverage list also gives a tip of the hat to New York producers with wine on tap from North Fork and the Finger Lakes, and draft beer by Sixpoint and Omegar.

The owners also embraced a sustainable attitude inside, hiring Brooklyn Heights architect Alex Meyers of MA Design created a farm-

house-chic style with a rustic wood ceiling and floor, old church pews for seating, plants in felt pockets hanging on a wall, and old mirror from the closed-up factory resting over the bar.

Thirty minutes before it officially opened, the restaurant needed to life with black and gray clad staff lighting candles, slicing oranges, and arranging tables.

A young girl bounced up to the bar and proclaimed that she wanted to make history.

"Food is our life," she continued. "And we really want this to be a place you come back to."

Colonie [127 Atlantic Ave. between Henry and Clinton streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 855-7500].

## PAVILION...

Continued from page 1

The first priority is seating.

Five of the nine theaters have chairs dating back to the original renovation—and look it. In theater seven, for example, six of the 70 chairs are missing seatbacks or seats themselves, while at least a dozen more have rips or stains marring the purple cloth upholstery.

Repairs can't be made because the Italian manufacturer went out of business.

"People come to the movies to sit next to each other," said maintenance man Gary Hans, gesturing to the unstable chairs pockmarking the

rows. "Here, they can't." Brunetti declined to reveal specific plans for the new seats. And he refused us access to his binder of fabric swatches.

"Choosing the color scheme is the hardest thing I've ever had to do," said 23-year-old Brunetti, who later admitted that lime green and magenta are not his colors.

On Presidents' Day, many families followed the proposed plan and joined the proposed plan.

"It's expensive to go to the movies," said Lilla Mead of Williamsburg. "So it would be nice if it were clean and upscale. I'd be more likely to come here."

## ROLL...

Continued from page 1

"I've watched shootings, people selling drugs on a daily basis, but the police seem more inclined to go after minor infractions," said Petersen. "I'm using because I see something wrong in society and I hope to make it better."

Despite his jubilation over

having his criminal case dismissed, Petersen couldn't celebrate his victory in his own personal style; he'd arrived at the Schermerhorn Street courthouse by train, rather than on his one-wheeler.

"They didn't have a valet for my unicycle, so I had to take the train," said the 26-year-old Petersen.

Mac Pro

iMac

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Mac mini

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## Big Bellies on 5th

New trashcans are straight out of the future

By Laura Gottesdiener  
The Brooklyn Paper

In Park Slope, even the garbage gets a fancy new home.

On Tuesday, the Fifth Avenue Business Improvement District installed six solar-powered, self-compacting trashcans at Bergen Street, Union Street and Fourth Street—plus additional "Big Belly" units on Ninth Street and 13th Street.

The reciprocals cost \$3,000 and hold three to five times more trash than a regular city-issued pail.

They have a built-in compactor that is activated by internal sensors when the trash piles up.

Oscar the Grouch isn't the only fan. Local business owners especially like the cans because it will help eliminate garbage that blows in front of their shop, resulting in tickets.

"It's an excellent idea," said



Linda Bugliese, co-owner of Bagel World at Fourth Street across from Washington (formerly J.J. Byrne) Park. "In the summertime, the streets are so dirty, you can see the trash rolling down the street. You don't want your community to look like that."

pickups, which reduces Sanitation truck emissions.

"The BID wants to go as green as possible, and these are the best," said Greg Murjani, the legendary Mr. Rubbish, who extolled the numerous benefits of Big Belly as he installed the cans across Park Slope on Tuesday.

But not everyone is impressed by the Jetsonian measures. "Big Belly does not eliminate the essential function of the Sanitation Worker, as the BIDs must empty the compactor and leave the bagged litter out for DSNY collection," said Sanitation spokesman Matt Lipani.

Still, five times more space in the can means five times fewer Sanitation pickups, meaning less traffic that sets up a battle between the \$3,000 compactor and senior Sanitation workers, who make \$67.14 an hour. At least, for now.

## Neighborhood on the 'Verge'

By Meredith Deliso  
The Brooklyn Paper

Move over, Manhattan, Paris, Tokyo. One of the world's biggest art fairs is coming to Brooklyn.

Verge Art Brooklyn, a weekend of exhibitions coinciding with the internationally hyped Army Show, comes to DUMBO from March 3 to 6.

"A plethora of art collectors, dealers, critics and aficionados descend on Manhattan that one week—at least some are smart and hip enough to visit Brooklyn," said Zannah Mass, cultural affairs director for the DUMBO developer Two Trees, which is co-producing the festival with Verge, which also runs art fairs in Miami and Basel.

"Whatever the impetus, they're wise to come across the river to where most of the art is actually being created by the New York artists and to experience the charm of this waterfront neighborhood," said Mass.



Fair weather: DUMBO's new art fair includes contemporary work like this runny piece by CEPT.

Unlike most art fairs, Brooklyn's will be free, and the art will be shown in actual galleries, as opposed to booths, and spread throughout an entire neighborhood. Most fairs don't stay open after dark, but Brooklyn's will run until 10 p.m.

Other unique facets of the fair include a curated show comprised of submissions from Brooklyn galleries and a juried open call that will welcome art from all over the world.

James Kalm, a long-time writer for the Brooklyn Rail, is curating "Brooklyn Art Now," a survey exhibition of the best work by the dozens of galleries throughout the borough.

"Brooklyn is a very important and dynamic piece of the bigger art puzzle," said Kalm. "This is a great opportunity for people to have a chance to get a little view of the big picture."

Kalm points to the meta drawing movement at Pierogi Gallery, one of the Williamsburg pioneers, performance art at newer galleries in Bush-



Mr. Rubbish himself, Greg Murjani, has installed solar-powered trash-compacting garbage cans along Fifth Avenue in Park Slope. These are cutting edge cans, people.

## DUMBO...

Continued from page 7

as an "American industrial drinking establishment," which is a long way of saying that it has become the neighborhood art hangout (artists must love a happy hour with \$3 Brooklyn Lagers like the rest of us). It's also a great place to pick up local gossip from co-owner Karen Johnson, a former head of the neighborhood association.

68 Jay Street Bar [68 Jay St. at Water Street, (718) 260-8207]. For info, visit 68jaystreetbar.net.

Superfine: Along with Rice and Jacques Torres, the spacious Superfine is one of the neighborhood's dining pioneers, opening nearly 10 years ago. On weekends, the restaurant gets it lively with art work on the walls and live bluegrass during Sunday brunch. If you're looking for a late-night drink and a round of pool, the place also obliges.

Superfine [126 Front St. at Pearl Street, (718) 243-9005].

47 Old Fulton Street: Dena Baldemic opened his Italian restaurant over the summer, and there are at least two reasons to go: The amazing 30-ounce,

bone-in ribeye for \$28, which may be the value of the century; 2. Baldemic himself. A former cook at Elaine's in the glory days, Baldemic is a hell of a teller every bit as good as the yarrspinners who propped up that failed bar.

47 Old Fulton Street [7 Old Fulton St. between Front and Water streets, (718) 243-9005].

Entertainment

Galapagos Art Space: This former Williamsburg venue found a new home in DUMBO three years ago, earning raves for its breath-taking space, where pook of water surround each table and candles climb up the walls. It's also gained fans for its quirky programming—classical quartets, acrobatics and nerdies comprise a typical week. Don't miss the weekly flagship party, Floating Kabarette—part cabaret, part burlesque, part variety show—on March 5.

Galapagos Art Space [16 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 222-8500]. For info, visit www.galapagosartspace.com.

—Meredith Deliso and Gersh Kuntzman

## PARK...

Continued from page 1

The consultant, however, did not consider a proposal being pushed by Squidron that would capture tax revenue created when several currently tax-exempt jobs in Williamsburg Bridge Park and to maintain the open space in the same way that normal city parks are maintained: through the Parks Department budget.

"Dedicate more of those dollars to parks and then we'll talk," said the consultant.

Despite the derision, the idea of creating a Business Improvement District for a park is not yet been studied: tapping into the 2.8-million-square feet of nearby Watchtower properties," he said.

Like Squidron, other opponents of housing inside

the park dismissed the park improvement district tax.

"We already pay our taxes," said Judi Francis, president of Brooklyn Bridge Park Defense Fund, which has used to keep housing out of Brooklyn Bridge Park and to maintain the open space in the same way that normal city parks are maintained: through the Parks Department budget.

"Dedicate more of those dollars to parks and then we'll talk," said the consultant.

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revenue, though neither did. Bryant Park is supported by a massive BID that manages more than \$5 million a year to supplement city services.

In addition to the \$4 million maximum revenue raised by the park improvement district, the consultant identified \$3 million in revenues that could be raised by:

- Parking fees—\$230,000 to \$440,000.
- Creating more concessions beyond the soon-to-open wine bar at Pier 6 and cart food on Pier 1—\$40,000 to \$365,000. It'll likely be the lower number, the consultant admitted.
- Changing the proposed residential buildings to retail space—\$250,000. Even that figure is unlikely because limited public transportation would make the park a poor location for offices.
- Charging sports enthusiasts more to use proposed recreation facilities outside the park—\$600,000.

The report did not mention cuts to the ballooning maintenance budget, which is being discussed by city and state officials, sources said.

LIU...

Continued from page 1

So far, a fair amount of Brooklynites have accused the Department of Education of squandering dough, though many also want to see the Department of Transportation and health care agencies, said Scott Sieber, the controller's spokesman.

The ask-for-an-audit is part of Liu's effort to bulk

up the city's Audit Bureau in the face of the widespread budget crunch. The Bureau inspects agencies' expenditures, revenues and activity logs to make sure that they aren't selfishly blowing taxpayer money.

And he's had some successes: Last year, Liu's office found that the Economic Development Corporation—the organization charged with creating jobs—was bonding \$120 million and forced it to return the money to the city coffers.

"We have some very difficult budget scenarios coming up and we have to do everything we could to keep services for New Yorkers," Liu said. "Our goal is to make sure that no money is being wasted through fraud, abuse or otherwise."

Liu's auditing activities also made Brooklyn Paper headlines earlier this month, when his office said that it was investigating a sales tax scheme at the River Cafe in DUMBO.

## Talking Hearing Aids: What are they saying?

Yes, it is true! Hearing aids can inform you of battery life, functional status of your hearing aid, appointments scheduled and selected programs in English or the language of your choice. On those rare occasions your hearing malfunctions, it will tell you to make an appointment with your audiologist (Starkey and Microtech). The same manufacturers have ingeniously introduced technology (T2 Remote) where your cell phone can control volume, and other features of your hearing aid. No more fumbling with remote controls or tiny controls in your hearing aid.

Phonak, Siemens, ReSound, and Oticon have introduced new technology where hearing aids talking to each other can allow for precise localization of sound and reduction of background noise coming from either a front or back direction. ReSound autofocus and manual focus features can help you hear single voices, two speakers, or groups even when noise exceeds speaker levels. As always, limits apply, but improvement can be significant.

Our final technology update involves the use of wireless technology (24GHz) to connect hearing aids to cell phones (hands free), TVs, and music from your favorite audio device. Watch TV or listen to music with your family at your preferred listening level. Improvements using the new standard allow for crystal clear sound without bulky body-worn devices or digital delays.

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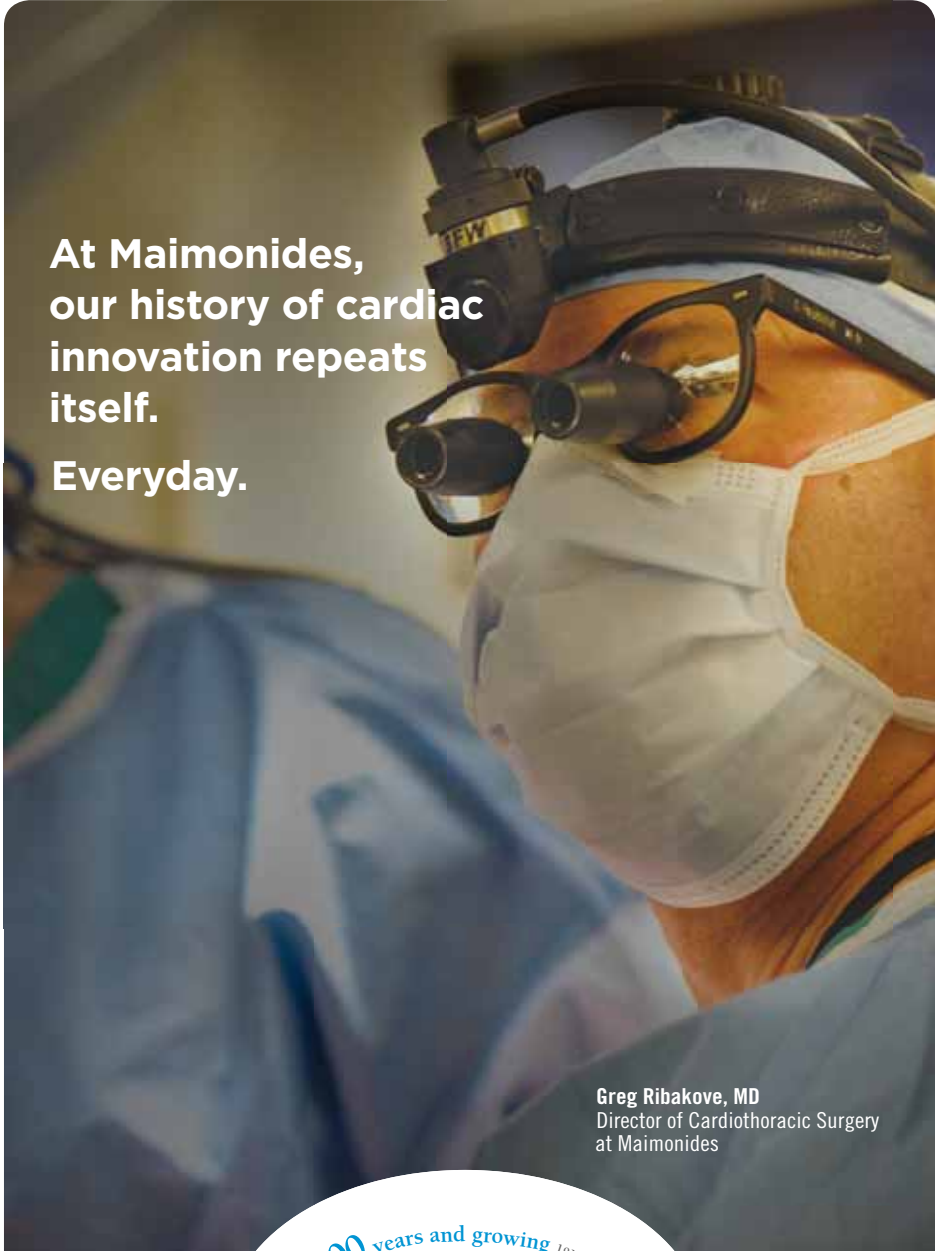
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